

ARIZONA NEWS RELEASE

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Press Release Announcement – (August 12, 2005)
- For Immediate Release -

ARIZONA UPLAND COTTON PRODUCTION DOWN 3 PERCENT

Phoenix – Arizona's upland cotton harvested acreage is estimated at 239,000 acres, slightly higher than a year ago. Yield is forecast at 1,406 pounds per acre, 52 pounds less than the record high yield in 2004. Production is forecast at 700,000 bales, down 3 percent from last year. American-Pima cotton harvested acreage, at 4,000 acres, is 1,000 acres more than last year's 3,000 acres. Due to the increased acres, production is expected to total 8,000 bales. Pima yield, at 960 pounds per acre, is up 64 pounds from a year ago. All cotton production is forecast at 708,000 bales, 3 percent lower than the previous year.

Other Arizona crop forecasts of production include alfalfa, at 1.82 million tons, down 8 percent; grapes, at 1,000 tons, down 75 percent; and apples, at 14.0 million pounds, down 62 percent from a year ago.

At the U.S. level, all cotton production is forecast at 21.3 million 480-pound bales, down 8 percent from last year's record high 23.3 million bales. Yield is expected to average 748 pounds per harvested acre, down 107 pounds from 2004. Upland cotton production is forecast at 20.6 million 480-pound bales, 9 percent below 2004. American-Pima production is forecast at 725,000 bales,

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down 3 percent from last year. Producers expect to harvest 13.7 million acres of all cotton and 13.4 million acres of upland cotton, both 5 percent above last year. American-Pima harvested area is expected to total 261,000 acres, 13,000 more than 2004.

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